

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

SAM-01 AF-06 /070 W

----- 006230

R 122243Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8865

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

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E.O. 11652: L/A

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, SOPN, AO, TD

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE ON ANGOLA

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 0036

OUR PRESS OFFICE HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO COME UP WITH ANY PARTICULAR FILE ON THE OVERSEAS FREELANCE NEWS SERVICE. DAVID MARTIN IS A WELL-KNOWN AND RESPECTED BRITISH JOURNALIST WITH THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER AND HIS AFRICAN EXPERIENCE IS LONG AND VARIED. ALTHOUGH HIS REPORTING ON AFRICA OVER THE YEARS HAS NOT BETRAYED A SYSTEMATIC HOSTILITY TO AMERICAN INTERESTS, HIS LINE ON ANGOLA, FOR REASONS WE CANNOT EXPLAIN, HAS BEEN EMOTIONAL AND ANTI-AMERICAN. TWO SUNDAY OBSERVER ARTICLES BY MARTIN HAVE BEEN DECIDEDLY UNFRIENDLY AS WELL AS INACCURATE. ONE FRONT PAGE ARTICLE ASSERTED THAT A US TASK FORCE LAY MENACINGLY OFF THE ANGOLAN COAST. THE STORY WAS UNFOUNDED AND MARTIN MADE NO EFFORT TO VERIFY ITS CONTENTS WITH US OFFICIALS.

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A SECOND SUNDAY STORY PORTRAYED A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE

ATTACHE OFFICE HERE AS A BAG-MAN FOR BRITISH MERCENARIES  
ON THEIR WAY TO ANGOLA, ALTHOUGH THE EMBASSY DENIAL WAS  
ALSO INCLUDED. FINALLY, A MARTIN ARTICLE IN THE JANUARY  
30 NEW STATESMAN ARGUED THAT EACH SOVIET/CUBAN ESCALATION  
IN ANGOLA WAS MERELY IN RESPONSE TO AN INITIAL US PROVOCA-  
TION.

SPIERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, JOURNALISTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D760050-1026  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, MOPS, SOPN, AO, TD, (MARTIN, DAVID)  
**To:** STATE  
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